

# Dextran sulfate



## **Drug Class: Microbicides**

Dextran sulfate, also known as DS, is a type of medicine called a microbicide. Microbicides are substances that protect the body from infection by microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, and fungi. Microbicides work by either destroying the microbes or preventing them from establishing an infection.

## **HIV/AIDS-Related Uses**

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Dextran sulfate is an investigational medicine that is not yet approved by the FDA for use outside of clinical trials. It is being studied for the prevention of transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. This medicine does not cure or prevent HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing the virus to other people.

## **Dosage Form/Administration**

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Dextran sulfate is a vaginal gel. In clinical trials, dextran sulfate gel 1% and 4% have been applied twice daily or just prior to sexual activity.

## **Contraindications**

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Individuals should tell a doctor about any medical problems before taking this medicine.

## **Possible Side Effects**

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In clinical trials, intravaginal use of dextran sulfate has been associated with minor side effects, including local itching and irritation.

## **Drug and Food Interactions**

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A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

## **Clinical Trials**

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For information on clinical trials that involve Dextran sulfate, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Dextran sulfate AND HIV Infections.

## **Manufacturer Information**

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Dextran sulfate  
Ueno Fine Chemicals Industry Ltd  
1133 Sixth Ave / 27th Floor  
New York, NY 10036  
(212) 935-2323

## **For More Information**

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Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: [http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live\\_help](http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help) Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET